

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic apparatus comprising:

a main unit;

a display unit distinct from the main unit;

5       a hinge mechanism having first and second shafts,  
the first shaft connecting the display unit to the main  
unit such that the display unit is rotatable between a  
closed position where the display unit overlies the  
main unit and an open position where the display unit  
10       is raised up from the main unit, and the second shaft  
extending in a direction perpendicular to the first  
shaft and connecting the display unit to the main unit  
so as to be rotatable in a circumferential direction of  
the second shaft;

15       a braking mechanism, which is mounted in the main  
unit and generates braking force that limits rotation  
of the display unit between the closed position and the  
open position; and

20       an engagement member, which is mounted in the  
display unit and movable between an engagement position  
where it is engaged with the braking mechanism and an  
engagement release position where it is removed from  
the braking mechanism.

25       2. The electronic apparatus according to claim 1,  
wherein the braking mechanism has a pair of brake  
shafts to which the braking force is applied, the brake  
shafts and the hinge mechanism are aligned in a width

direction of the main unit, and the hinge mechanism is located between the brake shafts.

3. The electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the braking mechanism has a brake shaft to  
5 which the braking force is applied, the brake shaft being rotatable in a circumferential direction of the first shaft of the hinge mechanism and having a recess with which the engaging member is removably engaged, when the engaging member is in the engagement position,  
10 and the brake shaft being coupled with the display unit by engagement of the engaging member with the recess.

4. The electronic apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the first shaft of the hinge mechanism, the brake shaft and the engaging member are arranged  
15 coaxially with one another, and the brake shaft and the display unit are integrally rotated in the circumferential direction of the first shaft by engagement of the engaging member with the recess.

5. The electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the engaging member is always urged toward the  
20 engaging position by a spring.

6. The electronic apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an operation member, which is mounted in the main unit and movable between a first  
25 operation position to move the engaging member to the engagement position and a second operation position to move the engaging member to the engagement release

position.

7. The electronic apparatus according to claim 6,  
further comprising a lock member, which secures the  
operation member in the second operation position, when  
5 the operation position is moved to the second operation  
position.

8. The electronic apparatus according to claim 6,  
further comprising a cooperation mechanism, which  
transmits movement of the operation member to the  
10 engaging member.

9. An electronic apparatus comprising:  
a main unit;  
a display unit distinct from the main unit;  
a hinge mechanism having first and second shafts,  
15 the first shaft connecting the display unit to the main  
unit such that the display unit is rotatable between a  
closed position where the display unit overlies the  
main unit, and an open position where the display unit  
is raised up from the main unit, and the second shaft  
20 extending in a direction perpendicular to the first  
shaft and connecting the display unit to the main unit  
so as to be rotatable in a circumferential direction of  
the second shaft;

a braking mechanism, which is mounted in the main  
25 unit and generates braking force that limits rotation  
of the display unit between the closed position and the  
open position; and

an engagement member, which is mounted in the display unit and movable between an engagement position where it is engaged with the display unit and an engagement release position where it is removed from the display unit and which receives the braking force of the braking mechanism.

10. The electronic apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the braking mechanism has a pair of brake shafts to which the braking force is applied, the brake shafts and the hinge mechanism are aligned in a width direction of the main unit, and the hinge mechanism is located between the brake shafts.

11. The electronic apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the braking mechanism has a brake shaft to which the braking force is applied, and the engaging member is supported by the brake shaft.

12. The electronic apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the display unit has a recess with which the engaging member is engaged, when the engagement is in the engagement position, and the display unit is coupled with the brake shaft by engagement of the engaging member with the recess.

13. The electronic apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first shaft of the hinge mechanism, the brake shaft and the engaging member are arranged coaxially with one another, and the brake shaft and the display unit are integrally rotated in a

circumferential direction of the first shaft by engagement of the engaging member with the recess.

14. The electronic apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the engaging member is always urged toward the engaging position by a spring.

15. The electronic apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising an operation member, which is mounted in the main unit and movable between a first operation position to move the engaging member to the engagement position and a second operation position to move the engaging member to the engagement release position.

16. The electronic apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising a lock member, which secures the operation member in the second operation position, when the operation member is moved to the second operation position.

17. The electronic apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising a cooperation mechanism, which transmits movement of the operation member to the engaging member.

18. An electronic apparatus comprising:  
a main unit;  
a display unit distinct from the main unit;  
a hinge mechanism having first and second shafts, the first shaft connecting the display unit to the main unit such that the display unit is rotatable between

a closed position where the display unit overlies the main unit, and an open position where the display unit is raised up from the main unit, and the second shaft being perpendicular to the first shaft and connecting the display unit to the main unit so as to be rotatable in a circumferential direction of the second shaft;

a braking mechanism mounted in the main unit and having a rotary body, which receives braking force that limits rotation of the display unit between the closed position and the open position; and

an engagement member, which is mounted in the display unit and movable between an engagement position where it is engaged with the rotary body and an engagement release position where it is removed from the rotary body.

19. The electronic apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the rotary body has a recess with which the engaging member is removably engaged, when the engaging member is in the engagement position, and the rotary body is coupled with the display unit by engagement of the engaging member with the recess.

20. The electronic apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the first shaft of the hinge mechanism and the rotary body of the braking mechanism are arranged coaxially with each other, and the rotary body and the display unit are integrally rotated in a circumferential direction of the first shaft by

engagement of the engaging member with the recess.

21. The electronic apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising:

5 an operation member, which is mounted in the display unit and movable between a first operation position to move the engaging member to the engagement position and a second operation position to move the engaging member to the engagement release position; and

10 a securing member, which secures the operation member in the second operation position, when the operation member is moved to the second operation position.

22. The electronic apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising a cooperation mechanism, which  
15 transmits movement of the operation member to the engaging member.

23. An electronic apparatus comprising:

a main unit;  
a display unit distinct from the main unit;  
20 a hinge mechanism having first and second shafts, the first shaft connecting the display unit to the main unit such that the display unit is rotatable between a closed position where the display unit overlies the main unit, and an open position where the display unit  
25 is raised up from the main unit, and the second shaft being perpendicular to the first shaft and connecting the display unit to the main unit so as to be rotatable

in a circumferential direction of the second shaft;

a braking mechanism mounted in the main unit and having a rotary body, which receives braking force that limits rotation of the display unit between the closed position and the open position; and

an engagement member, which is supported by the rotary body and movable between an engagement position where it is engaged with the display unit and an engagement release position where it is removed from the display unit.

24. The electronic apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the display unit has a recess with which the engaging member is removably engaged, and the rotary body is coupled with the display unit by engagement of the engaging member with the recess.

25. The electronic apparatus according to claim 23, further comprising an operation member, which is movable between a first operation position to move the engaging member to the engagement position and a second operation position to move the engaging member to the engagement release position.